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COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION, 1118

Wednesday, *the* *25th November 1942* / *10th Vrischigam 1118*

The Council met in the Council Hall, Ernakulam, at Eleven of the Clock with the Hon'ble President (A. F. W. DIXON ESQ., C.I.E., I.C.S.), in the Chair.

Messrs. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan, L. M. Pylee, T. P. Poulose and A. L. Antony were absent.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

KODAKARA PANCHAYAT PRESIDENT—AMOUNT—REFUND OF

25. Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether the Kodakara Panchayat President has been asked to refund amounts alleged to have been spent for the construction of the Chettichalpalam in the Kodakara Panchayat area, executed as a Departmental work;

(*b*) was not the President asked to refund at first Rs. 35;

(*c*) was that amount subsequently reduced to Rs. 2;

(*d*) if answer to (*c*) is in the affirmative, what is the reason for such reduction?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* (*a*) Yes. By the Director of Public Health and Panchayats.

(*b*) Yes (Rs. 35—1—0).

(*c*) Yes (reduced to Rs. 2—3—7).

(*d*) The total cost of work came to Rs. 157—12—5 and the Department was convinced later that the President has expended this amount and hence the full amount as per the account was allowed.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* What is the procedure adopted? Is the whole amount first advanced or is the President spending out of his own pocket?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* The estimated amount is given to the President as imprest.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* He was asked to refund Rs. 35. Was an enquiry made?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes. I will explain. It was at the close of the year 1117. The overseer submitted his measurement list and there was some difference between the accounts submitted by the President and the measurement list. The Director of Public Health had no time to verify the accounts and he called upon the President to refund the amount according to the measurement list submitted by the overseer. But at the beginning of this year the President complained that he had actually spent this amount and the Director of Public Health went to the spot, verified the thing and found that he had actually spent 157 and odd rupees. He was therefore asked to refund the balance only.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* Has there been any other complaint against the same President regarding the disbursement of the cyclone loan?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* Not to my knowledge.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* On what ground was he asked to refund?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* He said he spent Rs. 157, but as per the overseer's measurement list, it was less. The President made a complaint and it was verified.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* My question is, the overseer check-measured and submitted his accounts. On the basis of that account, he was asked to refund. On what other basis was the refund made?

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Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* I will explain that procedure. The overseer measured and valued the work at Rs. 157—12—5, but there was some discrepancy in the account submitted by the President; because it seems in some of the items he had spent over and above the scheduled rate. Actually the measurement was, for Rs. 157—12—5 but as the overseer could not recommend that, he recommended only the amount as per the scheduled rate. Then the President complained; the Director of Public Health went to the spot, verified the thing and found that the President had to spend a little over and above the scheduled rate. It was sanctioned by the Director of Public Health.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* Was the Panchayat consulted regarding this disbursement?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* The Panchayat, as such, was not consulted. No resolution is necessary.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* Regarding the spending above the scheduled rate, the Panchayatdars will have better knowledge of the thing and will spend less.

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* The Government did not lose a single pie, because the total measurement is for Rs. 157-12-5 and we have paid only that amount; not a pie more.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* The Hon'ble Minister submitted that in certain cases, the President had to spend more than the scheduled rates. That is a matter which requires local knowledge when the Panchayatdars are the best people.

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* I cannot definitely say whether it has been referred to the Panchayatdars nor do I deny it. The Director of Public Health went to the spot. Perhaps he might have made enquiries to the Panchayatdars also.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ചില ഇനങ്ങളിൽ ഷെഡ്യൂൾ റേറ്റിൽ കവിഞ്ഞു ചിലവുചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു പറയുന്നു; ബാക്കിയുള്ള ഇനങ്ങളിൽ എല്ലാം ഷെഡ്യൂൾ റേറ്റിൽ കുറവായിട്ടാണോ ചിലവുചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളതു"?

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ: സാധാരണയായി ചില സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ കൂലി കൂടുതൽ കൊടുത്താലേ ആളെ കിട്ടുകയുള്ളു. ചില സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ കുറഞ്ഞ കൂലിക്കു ആളെ കിട്ടും. അങ്ങിനെവരുമ്പോൾ ഷെഡ്യൂൾ റേറ് വ്യത്യാസപ്പെട്ടുവെന്നു വരാം. ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ നീയമനസരിച്ചു് മാവർസീയർ റിപ്പോർട്ടുചെയ്തു. അതിനെസംബന്ധിച്ചു പ്രസിഡണ്ടു് കംപ്ലെയിൻറ് ചെയ്തപ്പോൾ അവിടെ പോയി നോക്കി പ്രസിഡണ്ടു് പറയുന്നതു ന്യായമാണെന്നു തോന്നിയതുകൊണ്ടു് രണ്ടുരൂപികയിൽചിലപാനം മാത്രം മടക്കി അടച്ചാൽ മതി എന്നു പറഞ്ഞു.

BEE-KEEPERS' CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY—WORKING OF

26. Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* (*a*) Will Government be pleased to give a short account of the working of the All Cochin Bee-keepers' Co-operative Society, Rural Development Centre, Cherpu;

(*b*) how much honey is produced by this Society and sold;
(*c*) what is the annual income and expenditure of this Society;
(*d*) how many members are there?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* (*a*) The Society was organised on 2nd Vrischigam 1115 and there were 59 members at the end of 1115. In the last two years its membership rose up to 89. Unlike other societies, the members are admitted from all parts of the State. It has a total share capital of Rs. 119 and the Government have given a total free grant of Rs. 520 from the various Transferred Departments. It has a reserve fund of Rs. 17—12—5 with a working capital of Rs. 679—7—11. The chief activity of the society consists in purchasing honey supplied by the members, curing it at the centre and marketing it.

In 1117 it had a net profit of Rs. 80—14—0. The affairs of the society are managed by a committee of 7 members.

(*b*) Honey to the value of Rs. 383—4—10 was purchased and of Rs. 487—2—9 sold in 1117.

(*c*) The annual income in 1117 was Rs. 129—15—10 and expenditure Rs. 79—11—10

(*d*) 89.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* Sub-clause (b) "Honey to the value of Rs. 383-4-10 was purchased by the society". Are they not producing honey?

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